

CLASS Notes

November 30, 2010

Georgia Southern University

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CLASS

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

notes



November 30, 2010

Welcome to Georgia Southern University / College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

As we close out the month of November, I hope that everyone had a happy Thanksgiving holiday. I am also pleased to announce that Dr. Larry Griffin will be joining the College as professor, CLASS research scholar, and director of American Studies starting in January 2011. Dr. Griffin will hold academic appointments in History and Sociology & Anthropology where he will teach, serve, and conduct cross-disciplinary research. Dr. Griffin is an internationally-recognized sociologist and previously held the John Shelton Reed Distinguished Professorship in Sociology (with joint appointment in History) at the University of North Carolina.

In news from the Department of Sociology & Anthropology, **Dr. Sue Moore** and students **Kevin Chapman**, **Amanda Morrow**, **Matthew Newberry**, **Rick Kanaski**, and **Matthew Luke** presented their research on Camp Lawton at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference October 27-30 in Lexington, Kentucky. The [Camp Lawton](#) artifacts remain on display at the Georgia Southern University Museum.

The *New York Times* interviewed Psychology professor [Dr. Jackson Rainer](#) about asking quality of life questions during medical exams. Dr. Rainer also discussed grief and the holidays in a local [interview](#).

The Department of Writing & Linguistics is excited to announce that poet and essayist Mary Karr, author of third memoir *Lit*, will visit campus on March 1st. She will meet with students and give a lecture/reading that evening.

The College would like to congratulate professors **Linda Collins**, **Nanette Eisenhart**, **Mike McGrath**, and **Mauricio Sanchez** for their recent recognition by the Leadership Honor Society of Omicron Delta Kappa. Faculty become members of Omicron Delta Kappa when, among other requirements, they are nominated by a student for their service as a mentor.

Department of Communication Arts alumnus [James Kicklighter](#) speaks of his experience at Georgia Southern University and his film making success with *The Car Wash* in his article "Reconnecting With Your Over Connected Self," which was written for the National Film Festival for Talented Youth (NFFTY).

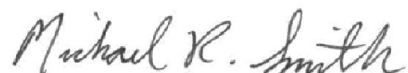
The Department of Music continues to engage in meaningful community outreach. The Collegiate Chapter of MENC (The National Association for Music Education) held an Instrument Petting Zoo at the Statesboro Humane Society's Pet Fun Day on October 30, where they provided a large selection of instruments for children to try. Several of our students spent the day talking to parents and helping children play violin, flute, xylophones and a variety of other percussion instruments.

Finally, in the Department of Art, professor [Jessica Hines](#) was selected as a grand prize winner, Portfolio

Category, in the Lens Culture International Exposure Award competition for 2010. She also placed 3rd in the singles Fine Art category. This a major international recognition for one of our outstanding art professors.

Congratulations to all of our faculty and students who were recognized during this last month for their scholarship and creativity. Happy holidays!

Warm Regards,



Michael R. Smith, Dean

Department of History

The History Department is enormously proud of the impressive accomplishments of our students. In the History MA Program, **Derreck Calkins**, who won the recent Graduate Student Poster Competition, has conducted research in Brazil, funded by several competitive grants, to trace how U.S. government-sponsored advertising and consumerism served to unite Brazil to the Allied cause in WWII. **Hans Sprenkle**, winner of an internship in Savannah with the Congregation Mickve Israel Oral History Project, is researching how Savannah's Jewish community has preserved its heritage. **Stephen Purvis** is researching the revolutionary commercial development of the Masters of the Universe franchise in comic books, toys, and television. **Douglas Walker** and **Jimmy Sheehan** received travel grants. Graduate students in Dr. Jon Bryant's course, The Historian's Craft, visited the Georgia State Archives and the Atlanta Branch of the National Archives to immerse themselves in primary source research.

In the History BA Program, **David McCurdy** won the Dean's recognition award at the recent CURIO event for his research using GIS technology, statistical analysis, and databases to locate the site of the Revolutionary War battle of Briar Creek. He is studying the potential historical and educational impact of this find. Ruffin Scholar and 1906 Scholar **Ryan Pickrell** was awarded the prestigious National Security Education Program (NSEP) David L. Boren Scholarship. Ryan used the award for study at Huazhong Normal University in Wuhan, China, where he researched Wuhan's economic and political development for his Honors Thesis.

Undergraduates in the History Department conclude their course of study with a capstone Senior Seminar. Current students' projects treat a wide variety of fascinating subjects, including: **Kimberly Vegliante's** analysis of gender portrayals in Disney Princess movies; **Charles Matthews'** research in how The Beatles revolutionized the music industry; **Phillip Thurmond's** work in showing how Pepsi cut into Coca-Cola's market share through hiring African Americans into management and targeting African American consumers; scholarship award winner **Katie Brookins'** investigation into how Harry Potter revolutionized the book publishing and movie industries; **Griff Parish's** study of how the Super Bowl transformed the advertising industry; and scholarship award winner **Emily Hergesheimer's** investigation into how McDonald's, Taco Bell, and Arby's have not only transformed the fast-food industry but also the American diet.

Among the department's faculty, three won competitive CLASS Seed Grants for funding their research projects: **Dr. Kathleen Comerford** for studying Jesuit Foundations and Medici Power; **Dr. Laura Shelton** for researching midwives and mothers in northern Mexico, 1790-1910; and **Dr. Juanjuan Peng** for investigating the growth of industrial enterprise in modern China. **Dr. John W. Steinberg**, at the invitation of the commandant of the Australian National Defense Force, presented a paper at the Chief of Army History Conference in Canberra, Australia. His

paper on how military tradition contributed to the collapse of the Russian Empire will be published in 2011 in the *Australian National Defense Force Review*.

Dr. Timothy Teeter recently presented a paper at the International Congress of Papyrology in Geneva, Switzerland. **Dr. Robert Batchelor** will publish two book chapters in 2011, one on translating space from Beijing to London, will be published in *Spaces of the Self*; the second on collecting, domesticity and anomie in seventeenth-century Banten and England, in *Collecting Across Cultures*. Moreover, in collaboration with the department's History Lab, Dr. Batchelor's ongoing project, *The Waddie Welcome Archive*, funded by a Georgia Humanities Council Grant, has launched an [online version](#) of the collection.

Upcoming CLASS Events

December 2

Music

Opera Scenes, 7:30pm
Carol A. Carter Recital Hall

December 3

Music

Symphonic Wind Ensemble & Wind Symphony, 7:30pm
Performing Arts Center

Through December 4

Art

Club Mud Exhibition & Sale
Ceramics Studio

December 5

Music

Seasonal Celebration, 3:30pm
Performing Arts Center

December 6-10

Art

Exhibition: Bachelor of Fine Arts Senior Exhibition
Center for Art and Theatre, Contemporary Gallery

[Complete Calendar of CLASS Events](#)

Give to CLASS

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences aspires to be nationally recognized for its superior and innovative educational experiences across the humanities, the social sciences, and the arts. Our goal is to provide effective programs that are responsive to the needs of the region and to allow all members of the college--faculty, staff, and students-to serve together to enhance quality of life. If you would like to support CLASS in meeting these goals, please visit our [annual campaign website](#).

Find all the details about the [Eagle Nation on Parade](#) public art project on our [website](#). Contact Sue Bunning at

sbunning@georgiasouthern.edu for more information.

Facebook

Stay connected by following our [CLASS Facebook page.](#)

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